

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's Office Action of April 08, 2008 issued in relation to the present Patent Application, the Applicant submits Amendments to the claims, and the below Remarks.

Claims 1-11, 15, 16, 20 and 35-47 are presented for examination. Claim 1 is an independent claim.

Regarding Claim objections

Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 10, 15, 16, 20, 35, 37, 44 and 45 have been amended to more clearly define the invention. Claim 12-14, 17-19, 21-34 and 48-66 have been cancelled from the application.

Regarding Claim Rejections

Claims 1-14, 20-23, 27-30, 32-34 and 48-50 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Schmidt et al. (US 6,604,684).

Claims 15, 25, 26 and 31 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schmidt in view of Umata (US 6,520,412).

Claims 51-59 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schmidt in view of Novak (US 5,497,314).

Claims 16-19 and 60-66 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schmidt.

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that Claims 24 and 35-47 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate therein all the limitations from former claim 24. Independent claim 1, as amended, and all claims dependent on claim 1, are therefore allowable.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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